promotion of tourism in the State. The details of the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below)

(b) Amount sanctioned to Gujarat in the last three years:—

	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	65.76
1994-95	21.19
1995-96	7.98

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The sanctioned amount is released to the State Governments in instalments in the ratio of 30:50:20, etc. After receiving the proper utilisation certificate and work progress report from the State Governments, subsequent instalments are released, last instalment being in the form of reimbursement after completion of all the requirements including land transfer document, completion and commissioning certificate. Besides this, Ministry of Tourism monitors the schemes from time to time to ensure speedy progress.

Statement

Projects/Schemes sanctioned during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96

Sl. No.	Name of the project/scheme
	GUJARAT
1.	Tourist Complex at Nalsarovar
2.	Cafetaria at Porbandar
3.	Floodlighting of Somnath Temple
4.	Two units of sprint type land-sailing yatch
5.	Navratri festival
6.	Tarnetar fair
7.	Publicity support
8.	Tourist lodge at Kuda (Bhavnagar distt.)
9.	Assistance for brochure on Royal Orient Express
10.	Tarnetar festival
11.	Assistance for Kutch Festival
12.	Assistance for production of publicity material

Construction of Low Cost Hotels for Middle Class Tourists

1782. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tourism industry requires capital to improve availability of low cost hotels;

(b) whether any estimate has been made in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to encourage construction of hotel accommodation for middle class Indian tourists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFARIS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) to (d) Construction of hotels is a private sector activity which is highly capital intensive. However, in order to encourage construction of such accommodation, the Government of India provide incentives like interest subsidy which is available to only one, two and three star hotels, reduced duty on import of project equipment/ capital goods/raw material. The Government also offers exemptions under Income Tax Acts.

Proposal to make Mount Abu more beautiful to attract Foreign Tourists

1783. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether tourism is one of the most lucrative foreign exchange earning

industry at present; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make the important tourist resorts like Mount Abu, etc., more beautiful and attractive?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFARIS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) Tourism is the second largest net foreign exchange earner of the country after readymade garments. The estimated foreign exchange earnings from tourism during 1995-96 is provisionally estimated as Rs. 9185.88 crores. The development of tourist facilities in any particular centre is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Government on the basis of specific projects submitted by them. For the year, 1996-97 the Central Department has prioritised a project for the construction of a tourist bungalow at Mount Abu with a Central assistance of Rs. 14 lakhs.

Development of Tourist Resorts in some towns in U.P.

1784. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop some towns in Uttar Pradesh as tourist resorts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFARIS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) and (b) The development of towns as tourist resorts is primarily the responsibility of the State Government/ U.T. Administrations. However, the Department of Tourism, Government of India provides central financial assistance to the State governments/U.T. Adminsitrations for specific projects based on their merits, *inter se* priority and availability of funds. The Department of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned 26 tourism projects for Rs. 401.65 lakhs in the last three years to the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

त्रिपुरा में पर्यटन को प्रोत्साहन

1785. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे:** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रतिवर्ष त्रिपुरा में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए बनाई गई योजना का अद्यतन ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इन योजनाओं हेतु चालू वित्तीय वर्ष के बजट में कुल कितना प्रावधान किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है;

(ग) क्या राज्य के उपेक्षित पर्यटन केन्द्रों का विकास करने और इन्हें राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन केन्द्रों का दर्जा देने का भी इन योजनाओं में प्रस्ताव है;

(घ) क्या राज्य सरकार ने इन पर्यटन केन्द्रों में मूल सुविधाओं की कमी के बारे में केन्द्रीय सरकार को अवगत करा दिया है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकांत जैना): (क) से (ङ) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान, पर्यटन विभाग ने त्रिपुरा सरकार की 97.11 लाख रुपयों की राशि की, 11 परियोजनाओं को स्वीकृत किया है।

1996-97 के लिए पर्यटन विभाग ने, राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों के परामर्श से, पर्यटकों को मूल सुविधाएं प्रदान करने के लिए केन्द्रीय वित्तीय सहायता हेतु 112.40 लाख रुपयों की अनुमानित लागत की 6 परियोजनाओं की पहचान की है।

The Room Requirement and Availability in One, Two and Three Star Hotels

1786. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the room availability in one, two and three star hotels in the